Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 AID-05 /078 W

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P 232122Z JUN 78 FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9636

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SOPN CI

SUBJ: GOC CLOSES DOWN "LA SEGUNDA" FOR TWO DAYS

- 1. SANTIAGO EMERGENCY ZONE COMMANDER GENKERAL ENRIQUE MOREL TODAY ORDERED A TWO-DAY SHUTDOWN OF "LA SEQUNDA" NEWSPAPER, TO COVER JUNE 23-24. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT A "SEGUNDA" INTERVIEW PRINTED JUNE 20 WITH CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC) LEADER AND FORMER DEPUTY CLAUDIO ORREGO SPARKED THE GOC ACTION.
- 2. IN THE INTERVIEW, ORREGO COMES DOWN HARD ON THE PINOCHET REGIME, SAYING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT "THE DICTATORSHIP HAS POPULATED THE WORLD WITH EXILES" AND THAT IT IS UNREASONABLE TO EXPECT THAT THE EXILE COMMUNITY WILL NOT PROTEST AGAINST PINOCHET. ORREGO RESERVES JUDGMENT ON WHO ORDERED THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON PDCER BERNARDO LEIGHTON, WHO RETURNED JUNE 18 AFTER 52 MONTHS OF EXILE, BUT SAYS: "IN A COUNTRY WHERE SINISTER THINGS HAVE HAPPENED, WE CAN EXPECT ANY DAY TO FIND TERRRIBLE THINGS...."

 ORREGO ENDS BY SAYING THAT THE PDC COULD NOT GOVERN ANY WORSE THAN THE PRESENT GOC.
- 3. COMMENT: SO FAR AS WE NOW KNOW, THE GOC IS NOT TAKING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OR PLANNING ANY ACTION AGAINST ORREGO. LANDAU

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